

What we claim as our invention is:

1. A method for downloading a binary file in a customer premises telecommunications hub comprising:

receiving a binary file in a customer premises telecommunications hub,
operating the hub with the binary file,
verifying proper operation of the binary file, and
designating the binary file as the current binary file for the hub.

2. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

loading the binary file into flash memory,
storing a trial run message identifying the binary file in volatile memory,

and

rebooting the hub with the binary file.

3. The method of Claim 2 further comprising:

during rebooting, checking the volatile memory for the existence of a trial run message.

4. The method of Claim 1 wherein:

proper operation of the binary file is verified by detecting the receipt of an acknowledgment message from an external server.

5. The method of Claim 1 wherein:

proper operation of the binary file is verified by detecting the receipt of a configuration file from an external server.

6. The method of Claim 1 wherein:

proper operation of the binary file is verified by detecting the receipt of a domain name from an external server.

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7. A customer premises telecommunications hub comprising:

a nonvolatile memory having first and second memory sections for storing binary files,

means for designating one of said first and second memory sections as currently active,

means for receiving a new binary file and storing it in the memory section which is not designate as currently active,

means for rebooting said hub with the new binary file,

means for verifying proper operation of said new binary file, and

means for designating the other of said first and second memory sections as currently active.

8. A customer premises telecommunications hub according to Claim 7, further comprising:

a volatile memory having a memory location designated for storing a trial run message,

means for, upon receipt of a new binary file, storing in said volatile memory a trial run message identifying the nonvolatile memory section in which said new binary file is stored,

means for, upon rebooting, checking said volatile memory for the presence of a trial run message and, if present, operating said hub with the new binary file.

9. A customer premises telecommunications hub according to Claim 7,
wherein:

said means for verifying proper operation comprises means for detecting
the receipt of a signal by said hub from an external server.

10. A customer premises telecommunications hub according to Claim 9,
wherein:

said signal is an acknowledge message from a DHCP server.

11. A customer premises telecommunications hub according to Claim 9,
wherein:

said signal is a configuration file from a TFTP server.

12. In a customer premises telecommunications hub;
the use of a volatile memory to store a message across a reboot process.
13. The method of Claim 12, wherein;
said message is a trial run message identifying a new binary file stored in
a memory location which has not been designated as the location of the currently
active binary file.
14. The method of Claim 13, further comprising:
rebooting said hub,
reading said trial run message,
operating said hub with said new binary file.
15. The method of Claim 14, further comprising:
verifying proper operation of said new binary file, and
designating the new binary file as the currently active binary file.